

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 114  
By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Susie Justice upon  
being named Hillcrest Elementary School  
Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Susie Justice of Hillcrest Elementary School is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Susie Justice has recently been selected Teacher of the Year for her school, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Susie Justice, along with all school-wide Teachers of the Year, will be considered for further recognition on a system-wide basis in three categories, pre-k through grades four, grades five through eight, and grades nine through twelve; those winners will then be nominated for district honors; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Justice places great emphasis on education in her personal life as well as her professional work, having earned a Bachelor of Science degree from East Tennessee State University and having completed graduate hours from the University of Tennessee and Loyola Marymount University; and

WHEREAS, she has served with acumen and alacrity as an educator for thirty years, including the last sixteen years as a First Grade Teacher at Hillcrest; and

WHEREAS, her extensive professional development portfolio includes Understanding Poverty, What Matters Most to Struggling Readers, DIBELS, Shared Reading, Teaching with the Brain, Four Blocks, and Using Literacy Centers to Enhance Reading and Writing; and

WHEREAS, she has also facilitated a workshop on Learning Focused Schools and is a cooperating teacher for practicum students; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Justice is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential; her students and their families consider themselves tremendously blessed by their association with her; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Alpha Delta Kappa international teacher's sorority, she has held the offices of President, Secretary, Historian, and Membership Chair; she is also a past President of the Lakeway Reading Council and a member of the Tennessee Reading Association; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Susie Justice is a member of All Saints Episcopal Church and has served as member of the All Saints School Board; she is also an educational specialist for the *Civil War Courier*; and

WHEREAS, Susie Justice truly serves as an inspiration to her family, friends, peers, and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate enough to know her; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Justice epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Susie Justice on being chosen as Teacher of the Year for Hillcrest Elementary School, commend her exceptional service to the youth of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.